

The Electronic Systems Center's Hansconian

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photo by Troy Langenburg

Sprucing up ...

(left to right) Senior Airman Terri Watkins, ESC Joint STARS, Maj. Lindsay Weber, 66th Mission Support Squadron commander and Senior Airman Mimi Lebron, 66th Support Group, plant flowers at the base dormitories during Dorm Pride Day July 29. For more coverage on this event see page 7.

Ittis takes wing vice commander position

by Master Sgt. Daryl Mayer
ESC Public Affairs

Col. Michael J. Ittis became the new 66th Air Base Wing vice commander July 20.

Prior to arriving at Hanscom, Colonel Ittis was the commander of the 77th Support Group at McClellan AFB, Calif.

"I'm happy to be at such a beautiful base and in such a wonderful location," said Colonel Ittis. "I look forward to working with Colonel [Danny K.] Gardner [66th Air Base Wing commander] to support the very important mission of the Electronic Systems Center."

After graduating from Colorado State University, the Texas native who grew up in Denver, Colo., earned distinguished graduate honors from the Reserve Officer Training Corps. He received his commission in June 1975.

Colonel Ittis then began his Air Force career as a rescue pilot flying helicopters for Detachment 8, 37th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

Later, a one-year Education with Industry tour with the Pratt and Whitney Aircraft Company, West Palm Beach, Fla., led to an assignment in the acquisition arena at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio in 1988.

While in Ohio, Colonel Ittis served in the Special Operations Program Office as Combat Talon II contract manager and as the Aerospace Systems Division Chief, responsible for pricing and negotiation for the F-15, C-17, TACIT RAINBOW, LATIRN, National Aerospace Plane and acquisition of all Air Force simulators.

In February 1998, while stationed at Kadena AB, Japan, Colonel

Ittis led the first-ever Air Expeditionary Force Deployment into Korea and assumed command of the 3rd Air Expeditionary Support Squadron, where he also served as 3rd Air Expeditionary Group deputy commander.

Colonel Ittis replaced Col. Peggy Shaw who retired July 11.



Col. Michael J. Ittis

ESC delivers JSTARS aircraft weeks early

by Roy K. Heitman
ESC Public Affairs

Continuing a trend of early deliveries, the eighth E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System aircraft was turned over by the Electronic Systems Center to the 93rd Air Control Wing, Robins AFB, Ga., July 27, marking the fourth delivery this fiscal year.

Better known as Joint STARS, the plane's arrival at Robins doubled the size of the fleet available to commanders.

This aircraft was delivered to the 93rd four and a half weeks early. Aircraft five was six weeks early, aircraft six was four weeks early and aircraft seven was three weeks early.

"The delivery date was a great day for our Air Force and the 93rd Air Control Wing," said Col. Gary Connor, director of the Joint STARS Joint Program Office. "When we delivered our eighth operational Joint STARS aircraft to Air Combat Command, it signaled the continued growth of this premier ground surveillance and command and control force for our nation. Joint STARS force structure has doubled in size — from four to eight aircraft — in one year's time.

"This early delivery marked another success — improved user participation in the delivery preparation process. Here again is another example of great teamwork - prime contractor Northrop Grumman Corp., Defense Contract Management (at the Northrop Grumman Melbourne facility) and maintenance personnel from the 93rd Wing jointly participated in the pre-delivery inspection process for this jet," Colonel Connor said. "The result is increased customer confidence in product quality and delivery processes that will reduce wing maintenance inspections by 50 percent, putting this new jet on the active flying schedule one week earlier."

The delivery brings the wing's assets to more than 50 percent of the 15 scheduled to go to Robins.

"This is the fourth jet I've personally delivered during my tenure as program director," Colonel Connor said. "It's a great privilege for me to represent the men and women of the Joint STARS Joint Program Office in delivering a first class combat capability to the warfighter — one that they've all had a hand in building. They all should be proud."

MDG to hold Tricare town meeting

by Areece L. Peak
ESC Public Affairs

The 66th Medical Group's Tricare Service Center staff will be holding a town meeting Aug. 16 at 6 p.m.

Anyone who is eligible under the Tricare program is welcome to attend, according to Capt. Melanie Carino, Business Operations Beneficiaries Services Flight commander.

"This meeting was established by Col. Charles Armstead, 66th Medical Group commander, to explain the benefits folks are unaware of.

"We want them to know and be familiar about all of the benefits the program is offering. This will be a positive briefing on Tricare benefits and how the Tricare Center can help," said Captain Carino.

This meeting will also discuss new programs for Tricare members.

"The objective of this town meeting program is to give Tricare members an overall view of the program so they can have choices, rather than making emotional decisions for themselves and their families," said Captain Carino.

For additional information about the town meeting, contact Captain Carino at 377-5009.

General Kenne explains mandatory BDU Day

by Lt. Gen. Leslie F. Kenne
Electronic Systems Center

With the rotation for Aerospace Expeditionary Forces 9 and 10 fast approaching, it is important for everyone to be aware of the part Electronic Systems Center plays in the Expeditionary Aerospace Force.

Everyday, all across Hanscom, we play a valuable role in our nation's ability to win wars. As a matter of fact ESC has had an average of 12 people deployed worldwide for the last three months. When the call for help goes out, ESC has been and will continue to be ready to answer.

We all have taken an oath to protect and defend the United States. There isn't any clause that says "just as long as I can work in a nice air conditioned building," or "as long as I don't have to get muddy." We must be willing to take the fight to wherever and whenever it takes place.

Consequently, I've decided to establish

the first Friday of every month as a mandatory Battle Dress Uniform day in conjunction with our military training day. Effective immediately, all military assigned to ESC will wear the BDU or flight suit, if authorized, as his or her duty uniform that day.

This will not simply be a day to put on some different clothes. Rather, I challenge every commander and supervisor to use BDU day as an opportunity to get in touch with our "warfighter" roots. Sit down and talk with your people about their responsibilities as airmen. Ask them if their personal affairs are in order. Do they have a will? Have they discussed the possibility of deploying with their family members?

And look within your own organization. Can you afford to lose this person if the Air Force needs him or her elsewhere? Can someone else step up to the plate and cover for them while they are gone. Or even better yet, can someone cover for you?

Also ask yourself if your people are getting

the training they need to perform their jobs under the most trying conditions? Our monthly military training days are only the first step. Units must have a vigorous training program in place to complement the center program, if they expect their people to be truly ready.

Finally, and most importantly, don't forget to include the civilian members of your team in these discussions. Although their attire won't change on these days, they are still an integral part of the Total Force. Many times when military members deploy, it will be the civilian workforce remaining behind that has to bear the brunt of the increased workload.

At ESC, we constantly focus on the valuable support we offer to the warfighter. And that is how it should be. But in the process, we must never forget that we are also warfighters. BDU day is one more chance to keep that thought in the forefront of our minds.



Lt. Gen. Leslie F. Kenne

Hats on, off? One airman investigates proper hat wear

by Tech. Sgt. Ginger Schreitmueeller
Air Force Special Operations
Command Public Affairs

Hurlburt Field, Fla. — It's not often you'll get someone to admit they wasted government time while at work. I'm stepping up to that proverbial plate and saying, yep, I wasted nearly an hour of the taxpayers' money the other day.

It had been one of those weeks where you wonder if you're the last one to know some big, breaking news. Everywhere I turned someone was stepping out of a car, walking into a building, lollygaging around outside without his or her hat on.

Surely, I thought to myself, if the Air Force had rescinded the wear-the-hat-outside rule I'd have seen a blurb or two somewhere - Air Force Press Service, an email from the first sergeant, a post-it note attached to some policy letter.

But, I was beginning to think I was the last one to be read in on this important uniform change.

The airman in desert cammies sauntering into the off-base frozen drink place apparently got the word. The master sergeant waltzing around the housing area reading his mail saw the memo. The staff sergeant making a dash from the parking lot to the burger joint saw the news release. The starving airman hopping into the dining hall surely read the note from his commander about it.

Each one provided that "Are you stupid?" look when I asked about a hat, a beret, a cover or cap. Maybe, I was the last to know.

That's when I decided before I stopped one more person about their missing top cover, I'd better spend a little quality time on the Internet. Checked Air Force Link, DOD Link, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force's home page, I even pulled down a copy of Air

Force Instruction 36-2903 (35-10 to those still clinging to the good 'ole days). Not one mention, not one iota about a phase out for hats or a total abolishment of those pesky hair-messing gadgets. After nearly an hour of search engines and find-it buttons, I gave up.

I wasn't out of the loop. Furthermore, there are no references to exceptions that allow excuses such as "I forgot it," "You don't need it in housing," "We don't wear them with this uniform," or (my personal favorite) "Yeah, whatever."

Feeling victorious in confirming that more often than not, I am in on big news information, I was pretty cranky. Then, driving to work the next morning I saw someone else who reassured me that the hat rules are followed.

A lieutenant had pulled her car into the median and appeared to be having tire trouble. Right behind her, an airman noticed the distress and pulled in to offer assis-

tance. (The non-hat wearers in the bunch may want to sit down for this next part.) The airman gets out of his car, with his hat already on, walks over to the lieutenant and, no kidding, salutes! Off base, in the midst of morning rush hour traffic, in uniform he has his hat on and renders the proper military courtesies!

Hundreds of people are zipping by this well traveled road, most

late for work. And, this airman not only stops to help but also doesn't forget his military standards in the process. Future chief master sergeant of the Air Force, say I.

As I silently applauded the airman's military bearing (I was driving and couldn't actually take my hands off the wheel), I wondered if he'd wasted any taxpayer's money searching for uniform changes, too.

Military Training Day today

The training for today is:

❑ **Airman's Manual**, Section 4, Fight -- During the Fight

Acquisition Training:

❑ 9 to 10 a.m. -- Vanta Conference Room, Bldg. 1630, 2nd Floor

❑ 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. -- Heathrow Conference Room, Bldg. 1630, 2nd Floor



The Electronic Systems Center's Hansconian

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Submissions must be received at least one week prior to each Friday's publication.

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To purchase a display ad call Jane Sheppard at (978) 371-5713.

Classified ads

Hansconian free classified ads are available to anyone affiliated with the base. Ads run for two weeks.

Business and rental ads are available for a fee. Call (781) 433-7940.

To place an ad, first complete a classified ad form. Forms are available in the ESC Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 1606, Room 109.

Next, mail the form through BITC to ESC/PA, fax a copy to Theresa Feely at 377-5077 or hand-carry it to the above location. Deadline is noon Friday. For more information, call the Hansconian office at 377-3912.

Delivery problems

Call 1-800-722-1914 for problems newspaper delivery to base housing and call 377-3912 for problems with delivery to base buildings.

Hansconian On-line

Visit the Hansconian on the world wide web at www.hanscom.af.mil/Hansconian.

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photo by Linda LaBonte Britt

Catch a rising star ...

Maj. Gen. Ted McFarland, Electronic System Center's vice commander, gets his second star pinned on with help from his son, John, and daughter, Rebecca, during a frocking ceremony held Monday in the Officers' Club.

Hanscom to support 'Stand Down'

by Chuck Paone
ESC Public Affairs

The eighth annual Massachusetts "Stand Down" is being held Aug. 11 and 12, and once again Hanscom is preparing to provide support.

The Stand Down, designed to serve the needs of homeless veterans, will be held in Rotch Park in Boston's South End, starting at 8 a.m. Aug. 11 and running through the following afternoon.

Hanscom will provide 20 tents, 20 to 30 cots and all the kitchen equipment needed to prepare meals. The 66th Civil Engineer Squadron will set up and remove the tents and provide electrical hook-ups.

Hanscom volunteers will also prepare and serve dinner for the homeless veterans on Friday, as well as prepare and serve breakfast the next morning. They will also serve a prepared lunch that day.

Hanscom volunteers, many of whom are military members, will also interact with the veterans throughout the event.

"The veterans love seeing the military members," said Donna Tosi of the 66th Air Base Wing's Commander's Action Group, who has volunteered for many years and is leading the effort this year. "They love talking with them and telling them their stories."

The volunteers get a lot out of this too, according to 66th Support Group Commander Col. Robert Tovado.

"Our kids come back with engrossing stories, and they tell the stories with tears coming down their cheeks," Colonel Tovado said. "They really become emotionally tied to the event."

The concept of a Stand Down comes from the military practice of removing exhausted combat units from the field of combat to a place of relative safety where they can rest and recover. Stand Down represents that safe haven that many homeless people don't have.

The three ultimate goals are:

- To help homeless veterans obtain permanent

housing

- To assist attendees in establishing a source of income either through employment or benefits

- To stabilize participants' health conditions.

"Stand Down is not a program," said Vernell Baker, coordinator of the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program. "It's an intervention."

The Veterans Benefits Clearinghouse Inc., a nonprofit community-based organization founded in 1979, organizes the Stand Down to assist veterans in need. Mr. Baker emphasizes that the event provides emergency assistance to homeless veterans, but that its primary purpose is to make them aware of all the services permanently available to them.

The goal, according to Mr. Baker, is to fix problems, not just patch them temporarily. That's why, in addition to providing food and clothing, the Stand Down will offer Veterans' Administration health care system registration, legal assistance, Registry of Motor Vehicles ID cards and driver's licenses, voter registration, counseling and a job fair, among many other services.

Mr. Baker said recent statistics indicate that about 38 percent of all homeless Americans are veterans, and that the problem has gotten worse rather than better in recent years.

"The strong economy has caused rents to rise and forced more veterans out on the streets," he said.

Accordingly, he said, events such as this one are more important than ever, and he noted that support provided by Hanscom and other organizations is essential.

Colonel Tovado agrees, and he stresses that our participation does more than just help the veterans.

"We're trying to meet a need by doing this," he said. "But it's also about recruiting and retention for the future. We need to show people that, once you've served, we'll take care of your needs."

Anyone wishing to volunteer to support the Stand Down should contact Ms. Tosi at 377-1000.

Hanscom holds Senior NCO course

by Senior Master Sgt. Steve Tupeck
66th Mission Support Squadron

Hanscom's senior NCOs will hold a Senior NCO Course in the Enlisted Club's Tuskegee Airmen room Tuesday through Thursday.

This course is designed to bridge the gap between the NCO Academy and the Senior NCO Academy and is offered to all new master sergeants and master sergeant selectees.

These new senior NCOs will spend three days sharpening their leadership tool-kits by receiving various briefings and instruction in such topics as senior NCO roles and responsibilities,

commander perspectives, military personnel issues, Family Advocacy, health and legal issues, Air Force recruiting and the Inspector General system to name a few.

The seminar will culminate with a Senior NCO induction ceremony, Thursday evening in the Officers Club ballroom. Non-commissioned officer induction ceremonies are rich in history and tradition.

This year's guest speaker is the eighth Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, retired Chief Master Sgt. Sam E. Parish.

Tickets are by invitation only. Questions may be directed to Senior Master Sgt. Steve Tupeck at 377-8542.

Base to hold Sports Day, bed race

by Areece L. Peak
ESC Public Affairs

Hanscom will hold a Sports Day Aug. 17 at various sites around the base.

This event is not only for military members and civilians, but contractors as well.

"Civilians assigned to the unit as well as contractors are more than welcome to participate," said Electronic Systems Center Command Chief Master Sergeant Frank W. Holmes Jr.

Games and events that will take place throughout the day are softball, Tai bo, three on three basketball and mini-golf.

Also on this day will be Hanscom's first bed race.

Chief Holmes will be an active participant in this event. "You can bring it on, but the chief is going to win," he said.

The objective of the event is to construct a race cart, using a mattress, bed frame and four wheels, which will be pushed by four people and one bed rider across a finish line.

Members competing in the events will accrue points during the day. The organization with the most points will receive a prize and be declared the winner.

Food and beverages will be sold during the day by base organizations to help raise money for unit functions and awards.

Chief Holmes said, "The object of sports day is to give people time away from their work environment, developing fellowship and camaraderie. We are trying to make Hanscom a stronger community."

Here is a review of the events that will take place:

- Softball games will be held at 9:30 a.m. at fields one and three.

- Kickboxing will be held in the base gymnasium at 11:30 a.m.

- Three-on-three basketball will be held in the base gymnasium at 12:30 p.m.

- Mini-Golf will take place at the mini-golf course located behind Hanscom's bowling lanes at 12:30 p.m.

- The bed race will take place at 2 p.m. The place has not been determined yet.

For additional information on the events, contact Chief Holmes at 377-5115.

SF offers drive-through registration

The 66th Security Forces Squadron will have a vehicle registration table set up Aug. 10 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the pizza sub shop and again Aug. 11 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Base Exchange.

To register, applicants must have an ID card, driver's license, registration and proof of insurance.



Does it seem like you're on the phone all day?

Please remember, official DoD telecommunications systems are subject to monitoring. Using DoD telecommunications systems constitutes consent to monitoring. Never discuss classified information via unsecured means.

Message courtesy of the 66th ABW Communications and Information Division

Education Fair to be held at O'Club

by Carolyn Quinn
ESC Public Affairs

Hanscom's third annual Education Fair is being held Aug. 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Officers' Club Ballroom.

Maj. Richard Keating, Education and Training Center flight commander and coordinator, said that there will be over 35 schools present, all with information specifically designed for the Hanscom community. This event is open to everyone, active duty, civilian, contractors, dependents and the local community.

The attending schools are from all over Massachusetts, New Hampshire and even one from England.

Some of the classes offered by these schools are held in classrooms at the Education and Training Center, some in the local area, while the others are held online or by other means such as satellite or videotape.

The main focus of this event is to promote part-time continuing education programs.

Schools that are going to be at the fair offer a variety of courses from training programs, to liberal arts studies, science and engineering, and Business and Education.

However, many are also bringing information about traditional undergraduate and graduate studies.

Cambridge College, for example, only provides

degree programs at night for working adults throughout the area. Most of the schools provide the option for distance learning via the internet. One school in particular, Jones International University of Denver, is the first totally online accredited university, offering degrees in business administration and communication.

Marlboro College of Vermont offers its own innovative graduate programs in internet technologies via the internet and weekend classes.

New Horizons Training of Burlington offers software applications classes on base and will provide information about Microsoft Certified Assistance Engineer programs.

Advanced Centers for Training Technologies offers a similar program with a 99 percent graduation rate.

Business colleges will also be in attendance, four of which are nationally ranked among part-time MBA schools in the Boston area, Babson, Boston University, Northeastern University and Bentley College.

Schools specializing in engineering, such as Worcester Polytechnic Institute and University of Massachusetts at Lowell will also be at the fair.

One of the most popular programs, Harvard at Night, will have a representative as well.

"This education fair will offer tremendous opportunities for our Hanscom community. We love putting this on. It's just great to bring the opportunities to Hanscom," said Major Keating.

DFAS works with institutions to resolve payday glitch

Washington -- Defense Finance and Accounting Service officials are working with a few financial institutions to identify and resolve a banking problem affecting the Aug. 1 pay of some service members.

DFAS officials have determined the cause of the problem rests with the financial institutions. "The DFAS electronic files were successfully transmitted through the Federal

Reserve System, but some of the financial institutions appeared not to post the Aug. 1 deposits," said Cathy Ferguson, DFAS spokesperson. DFAS officials are advising their customers to immediately confirm with their financial institutions whether or not their pay was deposited in their accounts.

The financial institutions identified so far as having a problem are the SAC Federal Credit Union,

Washington Mutual Bank, Citizens Bank, First Bank of Aurora, Global Financial Credit Union, and the Pentagon Federal Credit Union. The exact number of financial institutions could change, however, officials said.

DFAS officials said they are working with financial institutions to resolve any potential problems that may arise and to ensure there is no negative impact to the member.

Recruiter begins at home

by Senior Airman Christin Taylor
319th Recruiting Squadron

Many recruiters search high and low for prospective applicants, but for one recruiter, the search was a little easier.

Generally Staff Sgt. Kirk Inderbitzen, 319th Recruiting Squadron, looks throughout Boston to find recruits, but for this one, all he had to do was look right at home.

Some may think this recruiter would do just about anything to make goal, but the truth is his wife, Airman Dawn Inderbitzen, put herself in the Air Force according to Sergeant Inderbitzen. "I just did the paperwork," he said.

Her decision to join the Air Force came after 10 years of being a military wife and seeing first hand what a career in the military has to offer.

"She was tired of following me around the world and not taking her job skills or experience with her," said Sergeant Inderbitzen.

She decided a career in the Air Force would give her the training in a career she wanted with the education benefits she was looking for.

While stationed at Dyess AFB, Texas, Airman Inderbitzen had heard about a program on base to get certified as a dental assistant through volunteering.

"Both of us thought it would be an excellent opportunity to learn some valuable skills that would increase her career options," said Sergeant Inderbitzen.

As she received her certification, Airman Inderbitzen was able to see first hand what Air Force dental technicians do each day.

With that, she decided to take the step to the Air Force as part of a plan to improve the family's success, according to Sergeant Inderbitzen.

After deciding to join the Air Force was what she wanted to do, Airman Inderbitzen was well on her way to being a dental technician beginning with her six weeks of Basic Military Training.

"I was extremely proud," said Sergeant Inderbitzen, who went to Lackland AFB, Texas, to see his wife's graduation. "I marveled at how good she looked," he said. "She was glowing."

Her positive attitude and enthusiasm helped her meet her goal, explained Sergeant Inderbitzen.

"This was my greatest challenge and accomplishment since the birth of my son and raising a family," said Airman Inderbitzen.

After completing her technical training at Sheppard AFB, Texas, Airman Inderbitzen will be stationed at Hanscom with Sergeant Inderbitzen on a join-spouse assignment.

NCO to bicycle 275 miles to help fight AIDS

by Carolyn Quinn
ESC Public Affairs

Imagine riding 275 miles on a bike three days. For Staff Sgt. Tammy Thompson, Special Security Office, Electronic Systems Center's Intelligence Directorate, it's a reality.

The annual 275-mile journey begins in Boston Sept. 15 and ends in New York City Sept. 17.

Each day the riders cover about 92 miles before it gets dark.

Once the riders are done for the day, they will spend their night in a tent city set up to accommodate the 3,000 riders and about 300 volunteers.

Sergeant Thompson has been training for AIDSRide 6 by riding her new bicycle for four to five hours at a time.

She has never done anything like this before and is very excited about it.

"I haven't even done it yet and I'm already planning on doing it again," said Sergeant Thompson.

"Staff Sergeant Thompson is an outstanding NCO with a relentless amount of energy and it doesn't surprise me that she would partake in this worthy cause," said Tech. Sgt. Mike Perry, Special Security Office, Electronic Systems Center's Intelligence Directorate. "This is another great example of a hard-charging Hanscom airman giving something back to the local community."

"All of the Intelligence Directorate wish her well as she takes on this daunting challenge."

Pledges are made in order to help AIDSRide 6 raise the anticipated \$5 million needed for people with AIDS and AIDS prevention programs.

Sergeant Thompson can be contacted at 377-4913 to make a pledge.

To learn more about AIDSRide 6 check out the website at: www.aidsride.org.

CE gives fire prevention tips

by Paul Seguin
66th Civil Engineer Squadron

The best protection from fires is to prevent them. The following fire hazard was chosen for specific discussion because it is one of the leading causes of fires.

Everyone should know that any situation where fuel and heat might come together makes a possibility of a fire.

Stove burners, ovens and microwave ovens can cause severe burns and start fires.

The same is true of counter-top appliances such as toasters, coffeemakers and toaster ovens.

Be sure all kitchen appliances bear the label of an independent testing lab and are in proper working order.

Never cook when drowsy, intoxicated or taking medication that causes drowsiness.

Keep pan lids near the stove. If a small grease fire starts in a pan, smother the flames by carefully sliding a large lid (or a larger pan) over the pan, and then turn off the burner.

Leave the pan covered until everything is completely cool. Don't peek. Lifting the lid will let oxygen in and the fire may re-ignite.

Never pour water on a grease fire or try to carry the pan outside or to the sink.

Likewise, discharging a fire extinguisher at a pan of burning grease could splatter the contents and possibly spread the fire.

If a fire starts in the oven, close the oven door and turn off the oven.

If a fire starts in a microwave oven, push

the stop button or unplug the microwave oven and leave the door closed until the fire goes out.

Here are few basic fire safety practices to help prevent kitchen fires:

❑ Never leave cooking unattended, and keep potholders, towels and food packaging away from burners.

❑ Keep your stovetop and oven clean. Grease and other food residues can catch fire.

❑ Wear short, close-fitting or tightly rolled-up sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can dangle onto stove burners and catch fire.

❑ Always use dry fire-resistant oven mitts or potholders. Using a wet oven mitt can cause a steam burn.

❑ Turn pot handles inward so pots can't be knocked off the stove or pulled down by small children.

❑ Maintain a child-free zone three-feet around the stove, and keep pets away while you cook.

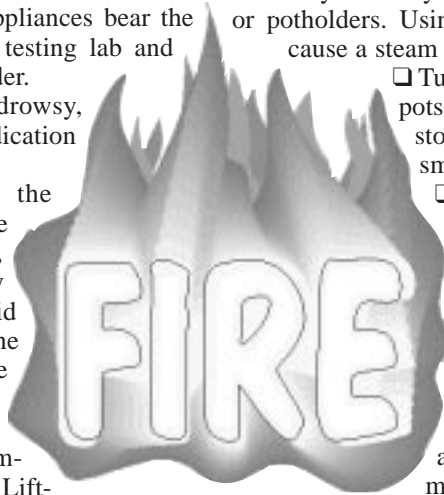
❑ Do not store combustibles, such as paper bags near a stove where they could catch fire. And never store anything where someone might be burned reaching

for it.

❑ Food cooking in a microwave can be dangerously hot. Remove the lids or other coverings from microwaved food carefully to prevent being burned by steam.

❑ Teach children that hot lids can cause painful burns.

If you have questions, call the Hanscom Fire Prevention Office at 377-8869 or 377-2936.



DoD could replace food stamps

by Army Staff Sgt. Kathleen T. Rhem
American Forces Press Service

Washington — Service members who qualify for food stamps — and some who don't — may soon get debit cards to use in commissaries, DoD officials announced July 28.

Defense Secretary William S. Cohen told reporters at the Pentagon the DoD-issued cards would be credited with a fixed monthly value based on the user's rank and family size. The new plan would be optional for members and cost the department \$31.5 million per year. Members can't participate in both programs.

Secretary Cohen called the cards necessary because Agriculture Department food stamp rules create an inequity between service members who live on base and those who live off. Under current food stamp eligibility guidelines, the value of base family housing isn't counted as income, but housing allowances for those who live off base are. All other things being equal, then, families living on base appear to be needier than those living off base.

The debit cards would end the inequity by not counting housing allowances as income, DoD officials said. This probably means more service members would receive cards than currently receive food stamps — but it's fair, they said.

Secretary Cohen also said the proposed debit card program would be more convenient because it would be administered by installations and members wouldn't have to travel to state food

stamp offices. The cards would give members up to 30 percent more buying power because of commissaries' lower prices, he suggested.

Officials are adding provisions for cash allowances for remotely located service members who do not have ready access to a commissary.

Defense officials have said a cash allowance to members who qualify for food stamps wouldn't work because that could create situations where lower-ranking individuals are paid more than their superiors.

"We tried also to take into account that our pay scales depend upon rank, responsibility (and) years of service, and we want to keep that basic core of our compensation schedules. This allows the military to have control (of the pay scales) and address the needs of families who need assistance," Secretary Cohen said of the card proposal.

The plan needs congressional approval. Secretary Cohen said the idea already has support from members of the House and Senate armed services committees.

Navy Capt. Elliott Bloxom, DoD's director of compensation, said the plan will likely be covered in the fiscal 2002 budget request and take effect Oct. 1, 2001.

The military doesn't keep statistics on members receiving food stamps, but DoD officials have estimated that about 6,300 households participate. That's less than one-half percent of the force, they said, and the members in question generally have larger-than-average families.

Band of Liberty performs at Boston's City Hall Plaza

by Senior Airman Eric Baroni
Band of Liberty

Amid the construction of the Big Dig and the hustle and bustle of downtown traffic, music could be heard on the streets surrounding Boston's City Hall Plaza July 12, as the Band of Liberty performed one of its summertime "pops" concerts for thousands of citygoers.

The performance marked the opening night of this year's Dorothy Curran Wednesday Evenings on the Plaza Concert Series, as well as the third annual appearance by the Band Of Liberty on the steps of City Hall.

Featured guest artists in recent years have included The Mills Brothers, Jack Jones and The Lettermen.

Under the baton of Captain Scott A. Guidry, the Band of Liberty commander, the band joined The Four Aces and Crystal Gayle to provide the audience an evening of music.

The Band of Liberty opened the concert with John Williams' "Olympic Fanfare," written for the 1984 Olympic Games in Los

Angeles and performed that evening in honor of the athletes competing in the upcoming 2000 Olympiad in Sydney, Australia.

The band also highlighted the men and women of the Air Force in a comical rendition of "Those Magnificent Airmen and Their Flying Machines."

Staff Sgt. Donna Williams and Airman 1st Class Dustin Hatfield then joined forces to share a medley of Glenn Miller favorites with the crowd, including "String of Pearls," "Serenade in Blue," "Pennsylvania 6-5000," "Moonlight Serenade" and "In the Mood."

Following the Band of Liberty's portion of the concert were The Four Aces, a group whose close harmony produced more than 30 top-forty hits before 1958. They took the audience on a nostalgic flashback to the days of such great hits as "Three Coins in a Fountain," "Tell Me Why" and "Love Is A Many Splendored Thing." Their per-



formance also included arrangements of "Shangri La," "Boogeyin' Beethoven" and Cole Porter's "Begin the Beguine."

The final segment of the evening's festivities included a performance by Grammy-award winning artist Crystal Gayle. The "Queen of Country Music" thrilled the audience with number one hits "Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue" and "Talkin'



courtesy photos

Grammy-award winning artist Crystal Gayle and The Four Aces perform during the opening night of the Plaza Concert Series July 12. The Band of Liberty also participated in this event.

in Your Sleep."

Ms. Gayle also performed arrangements of "In the Cool, Cool, Cool of the Evening," "Stardust" and she brought a small taste of her home to New England with a rendition of "Rocky Top." She concluded her performance with a patriotic medley, bringing the estimated 12,000 people in attendance to their feet in thunderous applause.

"What a delight it was to work with such professionals as The Four Aces and Crystal Gayle," said Captain Guidry. "Based on the reaction of the thousands of people in attendance, this evening was an incredible success for the United States Air Force. Our own men and women of the Band of Liberty worked extremely hard to help make this concert such a success."

New personnel vision responds to customer requests for web-based services

by Staff Sgt. Cynthia Miller
Air Force Print News

Washington — Last year service members worldwide asked the Air Force for more web-based personnel services. They'll get what they asked for when more than 80 percent of military personnel flight functions become available to them from their home or office computers by the end of 2001.

The availability of personnel services from home computers is just one of several initiatives in a new five-goal Air Force personnel vision implementation plan. The goals focus on improving readiness, sustaining recruiting and retention, streamlining personnel processes, implementing total force strategies and increased use of technology to enhance personnel support.

"We conducted focus groups with our customers at a variety of locations," said Lt. Gen. Donald L. Peterson, deputy chief of staff for personnel. "Our Air Force people told us they want accurate information. They want more web-based personnel services they can access from their desktop or from home. They want us to be accountable and responsible and they are right."

About 1,500 people participated in the focus groups, including civilian employees and family members. The focus

groups were conducted as part of the effort to develop the new Air Force personnel vision.

In response, Air Force officials developed the five-goal plan that includes providing responsive, agile personnel support from peace through war.

Addressing the first goal, readiness in the field, personnel officials plan to provide total personnel support to field commanders by the end of fiscal 2001.

"Field commanders said they needed more personnel capabilities in the field," said Lt. Col. Helen Cockrell, chief of strategic plans and military career field management policy.

Personnel in support of contingency operations teams are equipped only to provide accountability and manpower, not expanded service that AEFs require, Colonel Cockrell said. These services include promotion numbers, or information on awards and decorations.

"Our goal is to send PERSCO teams out with a laptop and complete reach back capability to the personnel center in order to provide field commanders the personnel information they need in today's EAF environment," Colonel Cockrell said.

To achieve its second goal, recruiting and retention, the Air Force is developing a long-range plan, to be implemented by the end of fiscal 2002, that focuses on proactive recruiting and retention efforts

that include Air Force civilian employees, as well as military.

"We've never had to think about competition with industry before," Colonel Cockrell said. "We've done some very good things in the last year with the retention and recruiting efforts, but we've got to have a long-range plan that identifies the market, and understands today's demographics. We've got to find out what are the things that attract and retain (recruits) and know what our recruitable pool is."

According to the colonel, the third goal, streamlining personnel processes by the end of fiscal 2003, is a time-saving, cost-effective measure designed to, make processes more efficient, reduce man hours, and eliminate some levels of review, "to make them happen faster," she said. "Doing this gives our people more one-on-one time with our customers, as our processes get smarter."

The fourth goal, the biggest according to Colonel Cockrell, is implementing a total force management strategy by the end of fiscal 2003.

"We're developing plans that support the role of each component, (Guard, Reserve, contractors, civilians), and help us determine how we maximize the synergy of our talented Air Force members," she said. "Outputs from several ongoing efforts such as the Developing Aerospace

Leaders initiative, career field management reviews, quadrennial defense reviews and total force assessments will be a part of the input under this goal that help us manage accession, development, utilization, sustainment, and separation of our personnel"

Implementing a virtual MPF where members can update information from their home computers is part of the Air Force's fifth goal of developing field technology enhancements by the end of fiscal 2002.

One of the personnel community's goals is to "use technology in such a way as to free up our (personnel specialists') time to provide more personalized service to our customers where it is really needed," General Peterson said.

Air Force members will soon have access to the personnel databases via the Internet where they can perform address changes, download information, and update other forms of personal data at their convenience from their workstations or from home computers, according to Colonel Cockrell.

"Our goal is to provide more one-on-one interaction with the customer," she said. "By giving the customer access to the virtual MPF, they can update their records when it's most convenient for them and avoid having to make a special trip to the MPF or CPF."

DORM PRIDE DAY

Residents, volunteers spruce up dormitories

by Erin Coyne
ESC Public Affairs

Residents and volunteers set aside a day to give the dormitories a facelift during Hanscom's second Dorm Pride Day July 29.

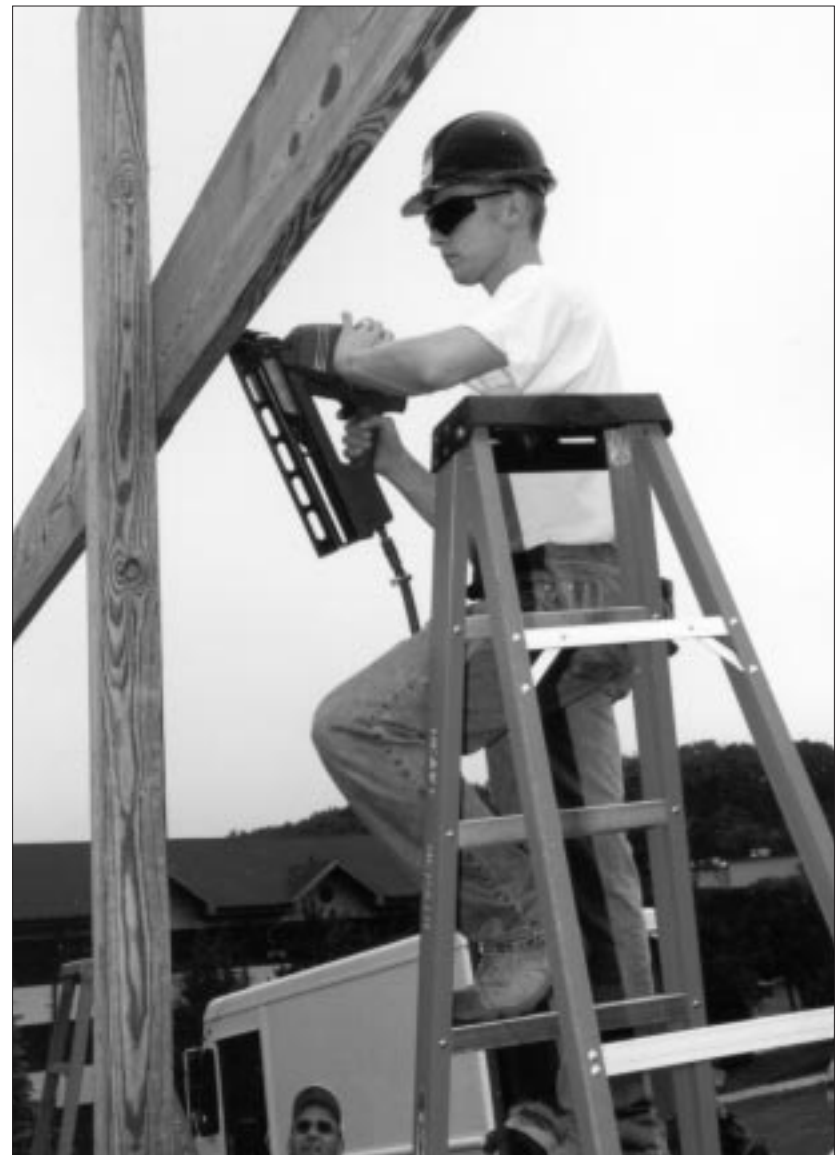
In addition to the general cleanup and landscaping, some of the special projects include building gazebos, barbeque pits, and planting trees, bushes and flowers around the dormitories.

The project ran from 7:30 a.m. to around 1 or 2 p.m. and was followed by a picnic of hotdogs, hamburgers and soda for all those who participated.

Tech. Sgt. John Raynes, superintendent of dorms, said, "The purpose [of Dorm Pride Day] is also to instill into the residents a process of accountability and responsibility.

"If dorm residents don't enjoy coming home then it affects the mission, therefore it is important to ensure that the dorms are user-friendly and overall a nice place to live," said Sergeant Raynes.

"I think Dorm Pride Day is an effective event because if you put blood, sweat and tears into the environment in which you live, then you are going to be more likely to respect and take care of it," he said.



Clockwise: (top right) Senior Airman Jeremy Turner, 66th Civil Engineer Squadron, fastens two boards together with a nail gun. Airman 1st Class Jackie Thorpe, 66th Medical Group, Staff Sgt. John Clayton, 66th Security Forces Squadron, and Senior Airman John McPherson, Band of Liberty, clean out a plant bed. Senior Airman Delreese Meeks, 66th Services Squadron, trims grass. Airman Robert Raulerson and Airman Timika Williams, 66th Medical Group, ready the soil for grass seed. Airman Basic Joseph Cornish, 66th Security Forces Squadron, helps keep the work area tidy. (photos by Troy Langenburg)

RECRUITING

AF exceeds 2000 goal, readies for next year's challenge

Washington — The Air Force said today that it is winning its “war on recruiting” by reaching this year’s goal with the recent signing of the 34,000th enlistment contract in Mt. Vernon, Ill.

With 26,070 new airmen sent to basic training since the beginning of the fiscal year, the Air Force has enough contracts with new recruits to enter basic training by Sept. 30 to meet its annual goal.

“This is a great accomplishment for not only our recruiters, but for the entire United States Air Force,” said Secretary of the Air Force F. Whitten Peters. “We made recruiting a top priority this year and are pleased to see the initial fruits of our labor. However, we won’t let up; we will continue to work hard to reach both our future recruiting and retention goals.”

Last year, the Air Force missed its recruiting goal for the first time in 20 years. An increase in the number of recruiters, targeted enlistment bonuses in hard-to-fill areas and months, and a first-ever paid television advertising campaign contributed to this year’s success.

In addition to increasing its overall manning, the Air Force deployed 100 recruiters from headquarters and staff positions for 90 days, recalled 170 former recruiters to serve 120 days on temporary duty status and deferred assignments for nearly 100 recruiters. This boosted its number of “on the street” recruiters from fewer than 900 last fall to approximately 1,300 current recruiters.

“Our front-line recruiters and the entire Air Force recruiting team are doing excellent work,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Michael E. Ryan. “They’ve responded to the challenge and we are extremely pleased with the quantity and quality of our new recruits. We will continue to make recruiting and retention a top priority.”

Even with 34,000 sign-ups in hand, recruiters are still hard at work recruiting additional candidates in anticipation of possible cancellations and to begin filling an expected 34,600 new jobs for next year.

“We really don’t yet have the time to stop and celebrate,” said Col. Duane Deal, Air Force Recruiting Service commander. “This is an indicator of how hard our recruiters are working, but we still have a daunting challenge ahead of us.”

Recruits cite the opportunity to further their education as the top reason for joining the Air Force, according to a recent survey. All new recruits are automatically enrolled in the Community College of the Air Force, the only accredited junior college among the armed services.

“When our great recruiters talk to young people today, they recognize that joining the Air Force equals enrolling in college. It’s automatic on their enlistment, and new trainees earn between 15 and 72 college hours when they complete training, depending on their skill areas. Added to that, they are gaining a skill, immediate responsibility and being part of the world’s greatest aerospace team,” Colonel



photo by Staff Sgt. Andy Dunaway

Even with 34,000 sign-ups in hand, recruiters are still hard at work recruiting additional candidates in anticipation of cancellations and to begin filling an expected 34,600 new jobs for next year.

Deal said.

With an ever-increasing emphasis placed on high-tech operations and weapon systems, the Air Force is recruiting the best of America’s youth. Young people entering today’s Air Force can qualify for more than 200 skills. The Air Force is currently placing special emphasis on recruiting qualified high school graduates and college students interested

in electronic and mechanical fields.

For information on the recruiting program, contact Air Force Recruiting Service Public Affairs, Randolph AFB, Texas at (210) 652-5993, or via e-mail at afrshq-pa@rs.af.mil.

For information about Air Force career opportunities, visit the Air Force Recruiting Service Web site, “Aim High Air Force.”

Nutritional supplements, sports drinks may contain ingredients illegal to AF people

by Maj. Craig A. Olson
Biomedical Science Corps

Like most Americans, Air Force members are constantly on the go and constantly trying to stay in shape.

It’s no wonder the market for nutritional supplements, including sports bars, has skyrocketed in recent years.

The high demand breeds competition among businesses looking for new ways to get their products noticed. Competition may be healthy for the market, but it can lead to trouble for an unsuspecting consumer.

The use of exotic ingredients and unsubstantiated health claims make the nutritional supplement industry a very confusing, and very profitable, arena.

Air Force personnel have to be especially careful when shopping for nutritional supplements because some contain hemp seed oil. Ingestion of hemp seed oil is against Air Force policy because it

may lead to a positive drug test result for marijuana.

According to Lt. Col. Susan Northrup, chief of Operational Medicine, Office of the Surgeon General, “Modifications are being considered for the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program to ban all hemp seed products, not just hemp seed oil.”

This is an important clarification because all products made with hemp products may contain the same substances found in marijuana.

From a botanical standpoint, hemp and marijuana are the same plant species — *cannabis sativa*.

The different parts of the plant contain varying amounts of psychoactive substances, the highest concentrations of which are in the resin of the flowering tops of the plants.

Industrial hemp plants are grown in countries around the world and the seeds are sold commercially for use as birdseed, as ingredients in commercially prepared foods and even for cooking at home.

Hemp seeds don’t contain tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, the euphoria-producing active ingredient in marijuana, so why the concern?

Hemp seeds can pick up the chemical after coming into contact with leaves and stems during processing.

Products that contain hemp seed oil or hemp seeds, like the Original Organic Hemp Seed Bar, manufactured by Nutiva, are off limits for some Air Force personnel.

In a recent memorandum, Colonel Northrup stated that, “Due to the potential of THC ingestion, this product is off limits for all aircrew, special duty and PRP personnel per AFI 48-123 and AFI 36-2104. All other Air Force members should seriously weigh the use of this product, with a known THC contaminant, against the legal ramifications of a positive urine drug screen.”

Why would anyone want to eat hemp seeds or hemp seed oil?

According to Capt. Deborah

Carlton, chief of Clinical Dietetics Element at David Grant Medical Center, the answer is simple, “Hemp products are marketed by manufacturers as being a good source of essential fatty acids and protein.”

She goes on to describe how informed consumers know that a well-balanced diet will meet their needs for protein, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals without the use of supplements.

Air Force personnel can make wise choices by following a few simple rules.

Read the ingredient list before buying nutritional supplements and remember that hemp seed oil products are off limits. All other hemp seed products may be banned in the near future.

If a food manufacturer makes a claim about the health benefits of their product and it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Always check with a doctor, registered dietitian or pharmacist when considering taking a nutritional supplement.

People should ask themselves

what their goals are. Eating a specific food or using a nutritional supplement with the hope of losing weight or gaining muscle may not be a good approach.

Take a good look at exercise and eating habits. If they’re not maximized to move you toward your goals, supplements probably won’t make the difference you’re looking for.

If inactive or over 45, consult a doctor before starting an exercise program.

Look at the cost of the special foods and supplements you’re considering. Most are expensive. If already on a budget, should consider learning more about shopping for healthy foods. A registered dietitian can teach you how.

For information about dietary herbs and supplements, visit the Brooks AFB website at www.brooks.af.mil/web/af/altmed/HOMEFRAME.htm. You can also contact a registered dietitian for general information by calling 377-8067.

Commissary's new web program to make grocery shopping easier

by Areece L. Peak
ESC Public Affairs

Wouldn't you like to know what items are on sale before you go shopping at the commissary?

Thanks to the Defense Commissary Agency's World Wide Web site, www.commissaries.com, shopping is made easier by using modern technology, the Internet.

"DeCA's web site allows the customer to see the savings before they arrive at the store. It provides the customer what they need," said Leonard E. Langford, Commissary store director.

By using a personal computer, customers can download savings on items in any commissary's inventory. Customers can find various items from fruits and vegetables to paper products.

The web site features telephone numbers to place special orders.

"It is not complicated at all. The web-

site has made it easier to surf the net. Simply turn on your computer and go to the website, www.commissaries.com and begin searching," said Mary Anne Frank, Commissary administrative assistant.

Customers can also search the website to view best value items. The best value item signs indicate the lowest price found on DeCA shelves. It's also the lowest price (for the same size item, national or store brand) at grocery stores, supermarkets or super centers off the installation, according to DeCA's website.

Not only does the commissary's web site enable shopper's to view best value items, but special features as well.

"The website is excellent in pre-shopping or comparison items when the commissary is closed," said Mr. Langford.

In order to improve services and products, DeCA allows shoppers to provide suggestions or comments on the web site as well.

AAFES celebrates 105 years

by Carolyn Quinn
ESC Public Affairs

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service celebrated its 105th anniversary July 25. In honor of this event, AAFES held a sale throughout the store and gave away free gifts to the first 105 customers of the day.

"We would like to thank all of the customers and our community for supporting AAFES and helping celebrate our 105th birthday," said Peter Nam, AAFES manager.

AAFES was originally set up in 1895 when the War Department issued General Order number 46 "directing post commanders to establish an exchange at every post where practicable."

The general order also set forth the mission of today's exchange service: "To provide quality merchandise and services of necessity and convenience to authorized patrons at uniformly low prices and to generate reasonable earnings to supplement appropriated funds for support of Army and Air Force Morale, Welfare and Recreation Programs."

The vision of AAFES is what it strives to become, which is to be the customers' first choice by providing high quality goods and services at low prices and at the lowest cost.

Today, AAFES associates are serving in over 25 countries and in all 50 states. The overseas regions are able to provide American goods and services to troops and families in remote places such as Haiti, Central America, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Croatia, Yugoslavia, Bosnia, Macedonia, Kosovo and most recently, Albania.

Numbers on the rise for AF Marathon

by Staff Sgt. Stuart Camp
Aeronautical Systems Center Public Affairs

Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio — It's been a month since the marathon registration fee increase July 1, and race officials have finished processing registration forms mailed in for the fourth annual Air Force Marathon.

Tom Fisher, marathon director, said he's already planning for a record-setting crowd Sept. 16.

"We're staying around 20 percent ahead of last year," he said. The 1999 race set the record with 2,800 runners. "I'm very encouraged with the numbers. If it stays this way, we'll have 3,400 runners."

The week following the price increase for marathon and Ekiden relay participants, the marathon staff received more than 600 registrations — including 400 in one day

when the July 4 weekend mail poured in.

The most significant statistic is the number of runners entered into the 26.2-mile run. Marathoners are coming from 42 states and several overseas assignments, and there are foreign runners from Canada and the United Kingdom.

Mr. Fisher has made no bones about keeping the Air Force Marathon from becoming a relay-dominated event.

"We do not want to discourage folks participating in this outstanding event, but it is a marathon and if we allowed the number of relay runners to exceed the marathoners then I have a hard time calling it the Air Force Marathon," Mr. Fisher said.

The entry deadline is Aug. 31.

For information, call the marathon office at 257-4350 or visit the Web site <http://afmarathon.wpafb.af.mil>.

Sale to offer bulk rates at a low price

by Areece L. Peak
ESC Public Affairs

Are you wondering when the commissary is going to hold their case lot sale?

Here's the answer to your question. Hanscom's commissary is providing a truckload and case lot sale to military members and retirees Sept. 15 and 16 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

This two-day sale will give military members and retirees a chance to bulk up their food supply and save dollars at the same time.

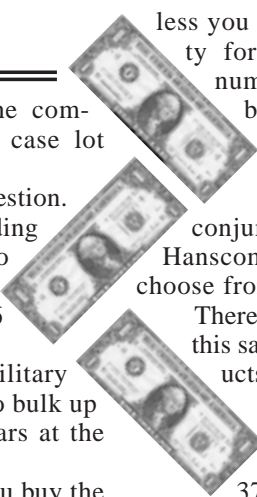
"Generally, the more cases you buy the

less you pay. This is a great opportunity for shoppers to save money on numerous items that are going to be sold this day", said Leonard Langford, Commissary store director.

The Commissary is working in conjunction with vendors to give the Hanscom community various items to choose from.

There will be numerous items sold at this sale. Such items are laundry products, paper cups and snack items.

For additional information concerning the truck loadsale contact Leonard Langford at 377-3372.



AFCEA golf tournament scheduled for Aug. 18

The Lexington-Concord Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association Diversity Committee is sponsoring a golf tournament Aug. 18, beginning at noon at the Patriot Golf Course.

The tournament will be a shotgun scramble.

Entry fee is \$30. Entry fees go toward green fees for nine holes, dinner and prizes, while proceeds go to the Hanscom Enlisted Scholarship Fund.

Contact Claire Goulet at (781) 221-1580 or Marie McClanahan at 377-2093 for details.

News from around the Air Force



Cooper's Hawks ...

Mascot cousins found wandering at Airman Leadership School, helped by students

by 2nd Lt. Danielle Burrows
355th Wing Public Affairs

Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz. — Two young flyers found wandering around the Airmen Leadership School here are being sent home to their parents. The pair are siblings, young nestling hawks, found by ALS students.

"The students were cleaning up when they found the (first) bird next to a tree," said Gwen Lisa, 355th Civil Engineer Squadron natural resource advisor, also known on base as the "bird lady." "They called the pest management shop, who picked him up and brought him to my office. He was quite dehydrated and appeared to not have eaten for a while." The second bird was found trying to climb the stairs in the ALS building, she said.

The two birds, Cooper's hawks, most likely fell out of their nest. At 3- to 4-weeks old, Cooper's begin to "branch." Because they are generally too big to sit in the nest at this age, especially when there are four or five of them, they start to stand on the edge of the nest and

"branch" out by standing on the tree limbs, according to Ms. Lisa.

"Of course, not being fully feathered out and not very coordinated, it is not unusual for the babies to simply fall through the limbs to the ground," she said.

Members of Arizona Game and Fish took the first bird to a wildlife rehabilitator, where it will be fed, rehydrated and tested for disease or injury. If it gets a clean bill of health, they will attempt to put the hawk back in the nest with its parents, Ms. Lisa said.

The second bird, who was a bit larger than the first, was put back over by the ALS dorms on a ledge outside the second floor.

"We did see one of the adults and it was calling for the baby, so I'm sure she knows by now where it is," said Ms. Lisa. "We never did find the nest, but with the adult there it will be okay."

Dr. Bill Mannen from the University of Arizona, who is studying urban Cooper's hawks for disease and mortality, also came out to check on the birds.

"The most important thing for people to know is that if you find a baby bird or other animal on the ground, you should, in most cases, just let it be.

"You might want to just move it out of harm's way, but for the most part, leave it alone," Ms. Lisa said. "The parents are not usually too far away and will continue to care for the baby. Baby birds can actually be put back into the nest. Handling the bird will make no difference to the adult birds."

If an animal is found, don't attempt to feed it or give it water, she warned. Doing so could result in being bitten or scratched.

"It also should be noted, while wildlife is fascinating and it would be nice to keep a baby, it is illegal to keep wild animals or birds as pets. Many of them carry nasty diseases and it would only take one bite or scratch for one to contract a potentially life-threatening or debilitating disease."

If it is obvious that the bird or animal is injured, put it in a box, keep it quiet, and call an animal shelter listed in the phone book.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Danielle Burrows

One of the two Cooper's hawk nestlings rescued by Airman Leadership School students.

Air Force study to address modernizing base infrastructures

By Staff Sgt. Cynthia Miller
Headquarters U.S. Air Force

Washington -- Keeping base infrastructure in line with the modernization of Air Force weapons systems and quality-of-life initiatives is the focus of a new study examining day-to-day operations of Air Force bases worldwide.

The Next Generation Installation Study, part of Air Force Secretary F. Whitten Peters' vision of aerospace integration, will evaluate future base investment requirements by analyzing existing bases and their missions, environmental factors, and relationships with local communities, according to Air Force officials.

"The Air Force has developed long-term investment plans for acquiring weapons systems but does not have a comparable process for infrastructure," said Jimmy G. Dishner, deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force for installations. "NGI will give commanders the details they need to make adjustments (to base infrastructure) through consolidations.

"For years, we've looked upon our installations as

closed environments," he said. "NGI will look through the prism of where we live, work and play to make sure that, as we look out to 2020, we will have a sense of community for our people, and, as opportunities come up for outsourcing, that we do it in a logical, business-like manner."

The cost of maintaining current bases is one of the driving forces behind the study.

"The Air Force has 160,000 homes that require upgrading to meet modern housing standards," Mr. Dishner said. "We cannot fund those (upgrades) with all the modernization items (F-22, CV-22, Joint Strike Fighter) we need to (fund); there's just not enough dollars to go around. It makes sense for us, as good business people, to see if there's a better way we can lay those costs off and let someone else own, operate and maintain our houses."

To help gain an accurate picture of current Air Force base infrastructure, the NGI study will examine the joint use of land, ranges and air space; encroachment on bases by civilian development; environmental lawsuits; privatization; force protection; and the move toward the aero-

space expeditionary force. The results will describe the "as is" condition of current bases and provide a template to be used for making future mission basing decisions.

The study, to be completed in 2001, is being conducted in four phases. The first phase, which began in July, will assemble the "as is" picture of current base infrastructures to establish a baseline.

The second phase will research the laws, taskings, regulations and mandates pertaining to the operation of Air Force bases, while the third phase will develop a matrix of base categories and groupings and develop "best practice" mission support modules and recommendations.

The fourth phase will consolidate data gathered in the first three phases into a web-accessible product to be used as a template for future base and mission planning.

"The current decision-making process uses business practices that have served well in the past, but do not take advantage of newer management techniques," Mr. Dishner said. "We often find that decisions made today could have been made better had a piece of information which was available, but unknown, been included in the decision-making process. NGI will provide that information."

Monday**Air Command and Staff College seminar**

Registration has begun for the ACSC seminar program.

The seminar program will provide eligible candidates with a forum to complete this intermediate level professional military education course.

Majors and major selectees of all service components, and GS-11s and above are eligible.

The American Council on Education recommends up to 27 hours of graduate credit.

The seminar will meet for approximately 10.5 months, three hours per week, from August through June 2001.

During the seminar orientation, seminar members will determine the day and time the group will meet.

There will be a seminar orientation at the Education Center Monday at 2 p.m. in Room G.

To register for the seminar complete Maxwell AFB Form 117, available at the education center service desk, 377-3120.

For information contact, John Loughlin at 377-3511.

Upcoming and Weeklies**Physical exams for children**

If you have children attending summer camp, enrolling into summer or fall sports, or attending kindergarten this fall then the 66th Medical Group has a deal for you.

This summer, the 66th Medical Group will be sponsoring four weekend physical exam schedules to help meet your children's needs.

Continuing August 19, the Hanscom Clinic will offer physical exam appointments from 8 a.m. to noon for children four years and older.

If you are in TRICARE Prime and want to take advantage of this offer, then phone 377-7059 and push one to schedule your appointment.

Band schedule

The Air Force Band of Liberty's Summer 2000 schedule has been announced. The next five concerts are listed below.

- Waterfront Park, Newburyport, Mass., Saturday at 8 p.m.
- York Band Stand, York Beach, Maine, Sunday at 7 p.m.
- Esplanade Hatch Shell, Boston, Mass., Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.
- Kate Gould Park, Chatham, Mass., Thursday at 7 p.m.
- Mattacheese Band Shell, West Yarmouth, Mass., Aug. 11 at 7:30 p.m.

Lexington-Bedford-Hanscom Raiders football and cheerleading program

The season is about to begin and there are still openings for boys and girls ages 7 to 15.

Practice will run the whole month of August, Monday through Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m.

After Labor Day, practices will move to Hanscom Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

For information, call 862-4937, e-mail at LBHRaider@aol.com or visit www.lbh-powarner.com.

The Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Program

The Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Program is available to the Hanscom community.

WIC provides free food and nutrition information to help keep pregnant women, infants and children under five healthy and strong.

Although the WIC van no longer visits the base, full services are still available at the following locations:

□ Chelmsford Street in Lowell, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. For directions call (978) 454-6397.

□ Waltham's WIC office is located at the Deaconess Hospital, Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Thursday from 12:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. For directions call (781) 647-6508.

To find out about eligibility or to make an appointment, call one of these offices.

National Space Club scholarship contest

The National Space Club is soliciting entries for the Robert H. Goddard Historical Essay Award.

Essays may explore any significant aspect of the historical development of rocketry and astronautics, and will be judged on their originality and scholarship.

They cannot be more than 5,000 words long, fully referenced and must be submitted by December 1.

The prize is a plaque and \$1,000 award.

For information, contact the Goddard Historical Essay Contest, c/o National Space Club, 2000 L Street NW, Suite 710, Washington, D.C., 20036.

Old Crows golf tournament

The Association of Old Crows will be holding a golf tournament this fall at Wentworth by the Sea in Rye, N.H., Sept. 25 with sign-in at 7 a.m.

The shotgun start will be at 7:30 a.m. with a buffet at 2 p.m.

Format is four-person scramble.

Price is \$125 per person.

For information or to sign-up, contact Phil LaVallo at 377-5533 or (603) 893-0897, or Mike Sweat at 685-4845.

Tax help offered

The tax section of the Retiree Activities Office remains open to assist tax payers who either filed for a delay, need to amend returns already filed or have received letters from the IRS mandating a revision to the original return.

Assistance is by appointment only.

For information, call 3-2476.

Voting assistance line established

A voting assistance line has been established at 377-VOTE (8683) to help potential voters get registered.

Anyone who has a question or problem can call the line and leave a message including their name and phone number. A voting counselor will call you back by the next business day.

Government-wide Purchase Card Program Training

A cardholder training class will be held Aug. 22 at 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

A billing official training class will be held Aug. 23 at 8 a.m. to noon.

To reserve seats, sign-up on the Center-Net at <http://esc.hanscom.af.mil/PKO> or call 377-3085.

CFC road race and fun walk

The Greater Boston Federal Executive Board will sponsor the fifth annual 5K Road Race and Fun Walk to benefit the nation's largest workplace charitable campaign, the Combined Federal Campaign, Sept. 20 at 5:30 p.m.

The race will start and end at the Lee Pool on the Charles River.

Registration materials can be obtained from the GBFEB website at

<http://www.boston.feb.gov>.

EC-47 Association reunion

The EC-47 Association is a group of former crewmembers of the EC-47 aircraft, both ground crew and aircrew.

The mission of the EC-47 was at the time, classified "top secret" and consisted of airborne radio direction finding and intelligence gathering beginning in South Vietnam in mid-1966 and extending to Thailand and ending May 15, 1974.

Missions were flown over South Vietnam, portions of North Vietnam and Laos.

The EC-47 Association reunion will be held at the Best Western Oak Hills in San Antonio, Texas, September 28, 29 and 30.

For information, contact J.C. Wheeler at (501) 754-3507, or email at jc@ec47.com.

Family Services seeks volunteers

Are you looking for a rewarding experience that does not require a lot of time?

Would you like to work among adults for a few hours each week, while your preschoolers enjoy a few hours of interaction with others their own age?

Then consider volunteering at Family Services.

At Family Services, you can enjoy meeting and helping many new people and your children can interact with others at a certified on base Childcare facility, or provider.

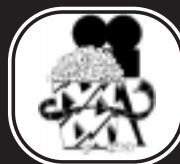
For volunteering your time, Family Services will pay for your childcare.

For information, call the Family Services volunteer coordinator at 377-3436.

New Hampshire ROTC programs available

New Hampshire residents, get your degree and commission through the University of New Hampshire's Air Force ROTC program.

For information, contact John Loughlin, Education Services officer, or Capt. Mona Tate at (603) 862-1480, or email, mtate@cisunix.unh.edu.

Colonial**Theater**

Friday 7:30 p.m. -- BOYS AND GIRLS - From the moment they first meet as kids on an airplane, Jennifer and Ryan set the tone for their life-long relationship: fighting and flirting with equal skill. Over the next few years they meet again developing a real passion for despising one another. But by the time they both get to college, their decade-long antagonism starts turning to friendship, brutally honest, no holds barred, true thing friendship, the kind only one unexpected thing could possibly destroy: sex. PG-13 (sexual content) 93 min
Starring: Freddie Prinze Jr., Claire Forlani

Saturday 7:30 p.m. -- THE ADVENTURES OF ROCKY AND BULLWINKLE - Yes, it's true, those notorious No-Goodniks, Boris and Natasha are back, and as usual are up to no good. This time they have managed to break the secret code and make the leap from their cartoon existence into the real world. Led by a criminal mastermind, they have devised a plot to take over the



photo courtesy of movieweb.com

world. PG (mild brief language) 88 min Animated

Admission is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Schedule is subject to change without notice. Call 3-7940 for movie information.

What's Happening

Hanscom Lanes

Fall and winter leagues will be forming soon and league play will begin the week of September 11.

Sign up now at Hanscom Lanes.
For information call 377-2237.

Patriot Golf Course

Need to work on your golf game? Then call us at 687-2396 for details.

Looking for that special gift for the golfer in your life?

Stop by our Golf Shop for a price that's right.

Don't forget to show your Preferred Plus membership card to save even more!

Family Child Care

Do you love working with children? Would you like to operate your own business out of your home?

If your answer is yes, then becoming a Family Child Care Provider is for you.

Call Julie at 377-1695 for information.

Any person providing "babysitting" services in their home on base for more than 10 hours a week must be licensed by the Family Child Care office.

Hanscom Lanes

Join us for glow in the dark bowling Aug. 12, 18 and 26 at 7 p.m. or at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 16, 23 and 30 for lunch and bowling for only \$6 per person.

Open bowling special, Monday through Thursday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. is only \$.75 per game.

The summer hours are Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

The snack bar is open Monday through Thursday, 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

The center is closed Sundays.

Patriot Enlisted Club

Steak night is every Tuesday, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Join us for Wednesday night buffet from 5 to 7 p.m.

Join us in the Tuskegee Room Aug. 17 for a Mongolian barbecue from 5 to 7 p.m.

Cost is \$7.95 for adults and \$3.95 for children ages 6 to 12.

BINGO will remain closed during the month of August and play will resume on Sept. 13.

Football Frenzy 2000 begins with Monday Night Football Sept. 4.

This a chance to win some great prizes.
Doors open at 6 p.m.

Fitness and Sports Center

Intramural tennis will begin in August.

Interested people should see their unit sports representative for information or call the Fitness Center at 377-3636.

Help those aches and pains with a therapeutic massage available Monday between 8 and 10 a.m. or 1 and 4 p.m.

Golf course prepares for championship

by J.C. Corcoran
66th Services Squadron

It's the event of the year as far as members and regular patrons of the Patriot Golf Course are concerned.

It is the Patriot Golf Course Club Championship scheduled for Aug. 12 and 13.



courtesy photo

A golfer swings at the ball at the Patriot Golf Course.

Completed applications must be submitted to the Golf Shop, along with the entry fee, no later than Tuesday at 5 p.m.

Application forms are available at the Patriot Golf Shop.

"I'm really excited about this year's championship," said Frank Kolarik, Patriot Golf Course manager. "We expect the course will be in good shape because of all the rain we've had and we're ready to go."

All participants will be required to observe proper dress codes on all days of the competition.

Metal spiked shoes will not be permitted and their use will result in immediate disqualification.

This event is open to all eligible users of the golf course, including active duty, DoD civilians, family members, reservists and retirees.

The entry fee for this year's competition is \$25 per player (patriot club members) with AGF card or 10-play card.

All others will be \$60 per player.

All play will be governed by the rules of golf as approved by the U.S. Golf Association.

All ties for first place will be decided immediately following with a hole by hole playoff commencing on the first hole.

This year's event will feature a men's, women's and senior's 36-hole, stroke play event.

The first 18 holes will be played Aug. 12 followed by 18 holes Aug. 13.

The men's championship will be a Net event utilizing 100 percent course handicap.

The women's championship will be a gross and net event.

Players in the senior division championship, also a gross and net event, must be 55 years or older to qualify.

Capping off the event will be the Open Division Championship with players to be determined by the 36-hole stroke play held Aug. 12 and 13.

The eight lowest scorers will qualify to play in a "match play" competition that will feature 18 holes in round one, Aug. 19.

The semi-finals will also be an 18-hole event played Aug. 20 followed by the Open Division Championship final (36 hole) round to be played Aug. 26.

The golf course will be closed for the championship from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Interested golfers should act now to get their entry forms, along with their tournament fees, to the golf course before the Tuesday deadline.

Call the golf shop at 687-2396 for information on this year's event.



Are you saving 10% yet?

If you're a Preferred Plus! member don't forget to fill out an entry form for the monthly drawing.

The August prize is a mini stereo system!

Entry forms are printed in the Services' monthly newsletter, Spotlights.

If you're not a member, then stop by any Services facility and ask for an application form.

Drawings are held the last work day of each month.

For information on Preferred Plus!, call Services Marketing at 377-9681.

Help Wanted!

Child and school-age care givers
\$9.43 an hour with benefit package

Cooks
\$8.70 to \$10.24 an hour
E.O.E.

Fax resume to 274-6048
Attention: Hal Williamson

Leisure travel agent position

Part time 25 hours a week
Experience in air, cruise and tours preferred
E.O.E.

Fax Resume to
274-6048
Attention: Hal Williamson



Trips

Nantucket, Aug. 12
Majestic Maine Cruise, Aug. 19
Spirit of Boston, Aug. 23
2000 Love Boat Theme Cruise
Splendid Newport R.I., Sept. 10
New Orleans Getaway and
Myrtle Beach Escape, Oct. 8
to 14

Amusement Parks

Six Flags, Water Country,
Roger Williams Zoo,
Hershey Park, Sesame Place,
York's Wild Animal Kingdom
and Funtown USA
Disney tickets and
museum and movie passes are
also available.

Call 377-3262

Summer equipment rental list

Party equipment - canopies, gas grills, coolers, tables, chairs and a dunk tank

Boating - oars, paddles, life vests, rods and reels, fishing nets

Boats - canoe with trailer, 14-foot V-hull or flat bottom, 16-foot V-hull or flat bottom

Outboard motors - 10, 20 and 25 horsepower

Boat packages - include boat, motor, trailer, two life vests and two oars

Camping - backpacks, sleeping bags, camp pads, cots, cooking sets, canteens, heaters, one- or two-burner stoves, lanterns or camp lamps

Tents - four-person dome, five- or eight-person cabin, or 12x12 screen tent

Call Outdoor Recreation at 377-5316 for prices and restrictions.

Fitness enhancement

❑ **Partners in care** will be held at the Hanscom Clinic Tuesday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

❑ **Cancer: How to detect and prevent it** (video) will be shown at the HAWC Wednesday starting at noon.

Are you at risk for cancer? Over 1 million people will be diagnosed with some type of cancer this year.

Two out of six of those diagnosed will live a full life span.

Early detection and avoiding the major risk factors of cancer (smoking and poor diet) could have prevented some deaths from occurring.

This video will help you recognize the warning signs of cancer as well as show you how to reduce your risk of cancer.

Registration is not required.

❑ **Adding nutrition into eating out** will be held at the HAWC Wednesday from 3 to 4 p.m.

Learn strategies to use when ordering at a restaurant. Identify menu items, which are healthy as well as nutritious and delicious.

Call 377-6560 to register.

Employment

❑ **Transitioning from a military to a civilian career** will be held at the Family Support Center, Monday through Aug. 11.

This workshop is designed to assist separating or retiring service members make a successful career transition.

Plan to attend at least six months prior to separation or retirement.

Civilian clothing is suggested.

Spouses are welcome.

This class begins Monday at 12:30 p.m. and ends at Friday at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday class hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Call 377-4222 to register.

❑ **Veterans' benefits counseling** will be held at the Family Support Center Monday from 3 to 4 p.m.

One-on-one counseling is provided to transitioning service members to answer questions about veterans' benefits.

Call 377-4222 for an appointment.

Work and life

❑ **Hearts apart** will be held at the Community Support Center, Bldg. 1217, Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

A monthly information and support group for spouses of deployed, TDY or remote tour service members.

Call 377-4222 to register.

Parenting

❑ **In step** will be held at the Community Support Center, Bldg. 1217, Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This month Patricia Marquis, licensed independent clinical social worker, will discuss the challenges and rewards of step-parenting.

Bring your lunch and share your opinions and experiences.

❑ **Prepared childbirth class** (session 3) will be held at the HAWC Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m.

For TRICARE patients in their third trimester of pregnancy, fathers and coaches.

Covers stages of labor, coaching, breathing techniques, medications for pain, cesarean birth and postpartum adjustment.

Call 377-6560 to register.

Education Center,
Bldg. 1728, 377-2021

❑ The Education Office testing policy requires students to arrive on time for scheduled test sessions.

It is the student's responsibility to report on time and our responsibility to ensure the students in the room are not disturbed by interruptions.

Late arrivals will not be allowed to enter the test room. All students taking exams should arrive at least 15 minutes before test time. Doors will close at 8 a.m. for the morning session

Happenings

and again at 12:30 p.m. for the afternoon session.

All exams start at 8 a.m., individuals should arrive by 7:45 a.m.

For information or schedule exams, call Education Services at 377-3120.

Thrift Shop, 274-8079

❑ The Minuteman Thrift Shop's normal business hours are Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for sales and consignments.

The Minuteman Thrift Shop is currently accepting summer-weight clothing for consignment.

For information, call the Thrift Shop at 274-8079.

Civil Engineering

❑ The base recycling program contractor will pick up hamper bins or carts Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Bins must be consolidated in one location. The building manager must call the recycling office at 377-4272. Leave the building number and location of the carts on the message.

Deadlines are Tuesdays at noon. Messages left after noon Tuesdays will be sent to the contractor for pickup the next week.

Hanscom Homeschoolers

❑ A support group is available on Hanscom for home schooling families.

The support group enables families to come together for field trips, social events and other educational opportunities.

The group also holds monthly mom's meetings.

The mission is to provide encouragement, information and support for those families who choose to educate their children at home.

For information contact Mynette Eledui at 274-8608.

Air Force Sergeants Association

❑ The Air Force Sergeants' Association, with over 150,000 members, is undoubtedly the recognized "Voice of the Enlisted" on Capitol Hill.

Just recently, AFSA has worked to restore the 50 percent retirement system for those under the REDUX plan, increase pay and allowances for enlisted members, protect cost-of living adjustments and improve education and TRICARE benefits.

Even if you can't be actively involved, you should still be a member and support AFSA's goals, which is to better our pay and benefits.

Chapter 161 also promotes camaraderie and welfare of the enlisted on Hanscom through sponsoring enlisted awards and various events.

You are encouraged to come on out and join us at our monthly meetings every fourth Thursday at 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Community Center.

For questions, email karl.vanbiene@hanscom.af.mil.

Patriot Enlisted Association

❑ The PEA is an open forum for technical sergeant's and below to discuss ideas and issues as peers. We foster teamwork, camaraderie for each other and the Hanscom community so we can make the difference happen. As a body of peers we can put a voice to housing, community involvement, and Quality of Life issues to the ESC command chief master sergeant.

For information contact Staff Sgt. Chris Kanski at 377-4923 or e-mail Chris.Kanski@hanscom.af.mil.

Patriot Senior NCO Association

❑ The association is a professional membership association for senior noncommissioned officers, active duty and retired.

The group actively supports the men and women of Hanscom and the surrounding communities. The Top Three also serves as a base network for problem solving and encourages comradeship.

Meetings are held the last Tuesday of every month at the

Enlisted Club.

For information call Master Sgt. Maureen Garrison, 377-2283.

Company Grade Officers' Council

❑ The Company Grade Officers' Council is made up of all lieutenants and captains in the Air Force. You need not do anything to become a member - you are one by default. How much you participate in this organization is up to you.

The Hanscom CGOC is a place to meet other junior officers outside of the workplace and participate in a dynamic organization.

The CGOC tries to get involved in a wide variety of activities from community service and social gatherings to professional military development. So, if you're interested in any of this, come to one of the meetings.

For information, contact the CGOC Executive Board: 2nd Lt. Jeremy Miller, president, 377-1668; 2nd Lt. Malcolm Mangels, vice president, 377-8384; - 2nd Lt. Sarah Kreps, executive officer 377-6933; 2nd Lt. Liane Witt, assistant executive officer, 377-4704 and 2nd Lt. Kyle Oyama, treasurer, 271-1186 Ext. 8391.

Officers' Wives' Club

❑ The Officers' Wives' Club invites those eligible officers' spouses to become members.

This club hosts a monthly meeting for social and service purposes. In addition, numerous activity groups are offered to members such as bridge, bowling, bunco, mah-jong and book and garden clubs.

Consider a membership in this club and experience the many benefits it has to offer.

For membership information call Paula Butler at 274-9075.

For activities information call Susan Neuzil at 274-9110.

Enlisted Wives' Club

❑ The Enlisted Wives' Club invites all spouses of active duty and retired enlisted personnel, as well as all enlisted personnel, to attend the monthly membership meeting, the first Monday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Patriot Enlisted Club. The club is a diverse group of people sharing community activities and social events.

For information contact Amanda Andersen, president at 274-0697 or Lois LeFleur, vice president at 274-8110.

Chapel, Bldg. 1603, 3-3538

❑ **Catholic Masses:** Saturdays at 5 p.m., Sundays at 7:30 and 11 a.m. and weekdays at 12:05 p.m.

❑ **Protestant worship:** general Protestant Service — Sundays at 9 a.m.; Gospel Service — Sundays at 12:30 p.m.

❑ **Jewish services:** the first and third Friday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

❑ **Eastern Orthodox:** for information contact Tech. Sgt. James M. Boubonis at 274-8714.

❑ **For information** on Chapel services, call 3-3538 or 3-3539.

Chapel Events

Six Flags trip

The Chapel will hold a family trip to Six Flags New England (formerly Riverside Park) Saturday.

Cost is \$13 per person and includes lunch.

Plan to depart from the Chapel at 8:30 a.m. for a full day of fun.

The trip is open to all military and civilian members of Hanscom, and all children must be accompanied by an adult.

Contact Chaplain (1st Lt.) Kenneth Johnson at 377-3538 to make reservations and for information.